

2011

**NASA Range Safety
Annual Report**

F. Stennis Space Center

Stennis Space Center (SSC) established a Range Safety Program through the issuance of Stennis Procedural Requirement SPR 8715.7, John C. Stennis Center Range Safety Program. The Range Safety Manager supports the Range Safety program per the requirements of this document.

Stennis Space Center uses an electronic range request system called the Application for Air Range Information (AARIN) system that can be accessed both onsite and offsite to notify key Center personnel of flight activities. This system allows the Range Safety Manager to de-conflict air operation and ground testing activities at the Center and provides a permit issued to personnel entering the site through an air asset.

1. Engine Testing

As a safety precaution to general aviation in the immediate airspace, Restricted Airspace R-4403 is activated during engine testing. Between January 2011 and October 2011, R-4403 was activated 7 times for J2X engine testing and 13 times as a result of RS68 testing.

2. Small Arms Range

During 2011, over 7,000 persons trained on the Small Arms Range through the Naval Special Warfare Detachment Stennis.

3. Special Forces Integrated Training

The Range Safety Manager provides de-confliction and Center oversight to augment the Special Forces training and certification activities conducted at Stennis Space Center; specifically Emerald Warrior 11 and Trident Fury.

Emerald Warrior 11 was an integrated training event the United States Special Operations Command (USSCOM) conducted at Stennis Space Center (SSC) within the Western Maneuvering Area (WMA). Stennis Space Center is one of six ranges who participated in the event which utilized rotary and fixed wing aerial assets to complete the exercise as well as civilian-style ground transport and Special Boat Team 22's Special Operations Craft, Riverine. Nongovernment and government agencies trained together to simulate real world situations. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff noted the success of Emerald Warrior 11 on the Stennis Range.

The mission rehearsal exercise, Trident Fury, was conducted at SSC and the Western Maneuvering Area (WMA) by Naval Special Warfare Group Two (NSWG-2). Trident Fury combined air assets with ground movement to create an integrated training/certification opportunity for the war fighter. Rotary UAVs and fixed wing aerial assets were utilized to complete the exercise as well as civilian-style ground and air transport and Special Boat Team 22's Special Operations Craft, Riverine (SOC-R). With respect to the Stennis Range, Trident Fury – SEAL Team 2 Squadron Integrated Training Exercise (SITEX) was noted as a success.

4. Stennis International Airport

Stennis International Airport (HAS) is located inside of the buffer zone. Hancock County Development Commission is owner and operator of the facility and is responsible for all safety considerations at the airport. Operational statistics for February 2010 through January 2011 (from www.airport-data.com) are available in Figure 26.

Stennis International Airport Statistics: Feb 2010 - Jan 2011	
Total Aircraft Operations	175 per day
General Aviation – Local	25.2%
General Aviation – Itinerant	64.4 %
Military	10.2 %

FIGURE 26: STENNIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT STATISTICS: FEB 2010 - JAN 2011

5. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles – Certificate of Authority

Currently, the Department of Defense Special Operations Command (SOCOM) is the only agency operating UASs at Stennis Space Center. The Certificates of Authority (COAs) for SOCOM are:

- WASP, 2009-ESA-37, effective 22 Mar 10 to 21 Mar 11.
- Raven, 2009-ESA-36, effective 21 Jul 10 to 20 Jul 11.
- 2011-ESA-42, effective 20 July 11 to 19 July 12.
- Puma, 2009-ESA-40, effective 21 July 10 to 20 July 11.
- 2011-ESA-43, effective 20 July 11 – 19 July 12.

While SOCOM applies for the COAs, maintains the vehicles, and operates the UAVs, the Stennis Space Center Range Safety Manager provides de-confliction between the Special Forces flights and NASA missions.